

GREENHOUSE SERVICE STATION  
(Larry Wood Chevron)  
522 South Main Street  
Woodstock Vicinity  
Cherokee County  
Georgia

HABS No. GA-2232

HABS  
GA  
29-WDSK,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY  
National Park Service  
Southeast Region  
Department of the Interior  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY  
GREENHOUSE SERVICE STATION (Larry Wood Chevron)

HABS  
GA  
24-10315  
1-

HABS No. GA-2232

Location: 522 S. Main Street, (West side of Georgia State Route 754, 0.02 mile north of the intersection of Georgia State Route 754 and Georgia State Route 92), Cherokee County, Georgia

U.S.G.S. Kennesaw Quadrangle (7.5), Zone 16

Universal Transverse Mercator  
Coordinates:

Northing  
3774500

Easting  
728830

Present Owner: Ruth F. Reeves Estate  
P.O. Box 826  
Woodstock, Georgia 30188

Present Occupant: Rodd's Garage

Present Use: Tire Dealer

Significance: The Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) was constructed c. 1935 by Gilbert Reeves, a local resident and developer. The building is a rectangular mass with a three bay facade, and a porte cochere that extends from the first two bays. It possesses a flat roof with a stepped parapet, and tongue-and-groove walls and floors. It was originally constructed as a grocery and filling station and was part of a group of commercial properties developed by Mr. Reeves between 1930 and 1940. Strategically located along old Georgia State Route 5 (presently Georgia State Route 754), which was for many years the only paved road in Cherokee County, the Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) and neighboring businesses contributed to the commercial development of the area. The Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) is significant in the area of architecture, and is important as the remaining potentially eligible historic resource associated with Reeves' development.

PART I. PHYSICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF THE GREENHOUSE  
SERVICE STATION (LARRY WOOD CHEVRON) IN RELATION TO THE HISTORIC  
AND EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

The Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) is located on the west side of Georgia State Route 754, south of the Woodstock city limits, and north of the intersection of Georgia State Route 754 and Georgia State Route 92. It was constructed c. 1935 by Mr. Gilbert Reeves, a local resident and developer. The building was one of several commercial properties developed by Mr. Reeves to serve the residents who lived between the larger commercial centers of Marietta and Canton. The Greenhouse Service Station was named for its proximity to another of Mr. Reeves' commercial properties, the Reeves Florist, which was known for its greenhouses. Strategically located along Old Georgia State Route 5 (Georgia State Route 754), which for many years was the only paved road in Cherokee County, these early businesses contributed to the development of the Woodstock area. These early commercial establishments also included the Dixie Inn Restaurant, a shopping center, and a second filling station. The Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) is the only remaining building associated with Mr. Reeves' development of the area.

Cherokee County has historically been a rural county where development was slow and sparse. In the vicinity of the Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron), land was used exclusively for agricultural purposes. The land on which the Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) is located was originally part of the estate of Andrew Rice Fowler, a former Cobb County resident who purchased several thousand acres in south Cherokee County between the years 1883 and 1909. With the exception of a c. 1903 Queen Anne style residence Mr. Fowler reportedly built for his family, he chose to maintain the agricultural nature of the area. The house is located on the west side of Georgia State Route 754 immediately north of the location of the Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron).

Gilbert Reeves married Fowler's daughter, Ruth, in 1920 and moved in to the Fowler residence. An enterprising young man, Reeves began developing the area along Old State Route 5 in the 1930's and created a small commercial center that altered the once completely rural area into a viable business community. Although Reeves' development paved the way for additional commercial activity in the area, it was not until the decade of the 1970's that development throughout the county accelerated. Between 1970 and 1980, the population of Cherokee County increased by 66 percent from 31,059 to 51,699. The decade of the 1980's saw a further increase in population, from 51,699 to 87,510, an increase of 69 percent. The majority of this growth occurred in the southern portion of the county, particularly in the vicinity

of the City of Woodstock. This rapid increase in population has led to a boom in new commercial and residential development, and the loss of older commercial buildings, in particular.

Presently, the vicinity of the Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) includes several strip shopping centers, fast food restaurants, new gas stations, and commercial office buildings. The Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron), along with the c. 1903 Fowler residence provide the only link to the history of the area.

## PART II. HISTORY OF THE GREENHOUSE SERVICE STATION (LARRY WOOD CHEVRON)

The Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron), constructed c. 1935, was one of several commercial properties developed by Mr. Gilbert Reeves in the Woodstock vicinity between the years 1930 and 1940. Developed to serve the residents who lived between the larger commercial centers of Marietta and Canton, the Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) and neighboring businesses competed actively with the City of Woodstock for local business. The Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) was originally leased to Sam Priest who operated a grocery and filling station. In 1939, Mr. Priest entered into a partnership with Carl Dunn, who eventually acquired Mr. Priest's interest in the property. Larry Wood, Dunn's son-in-law, took over the business in 1984, and operated the service station until 1992 when the site was leased to Rodd's Garage. Rodd's Garage is the current tenant.

## PART III. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE GREENHOUSE SERVICE STATION (LARRY WOOD CHEVRON)

The Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron), c. 1935, is a rectangular shaped building containing a three bay facade, and a porte cochere with a wrought iron support extending from the first two bays. It possesses a flat roof with a stepped parapet, and tongue-and-groove walls and floors. The building is of frame construction and originally had six inch weatherboard siding that was bricked over in 1948. The original interior contained a grocery and a service bay. Presently, the grocery is used as an office.

During the 1960's, the tenant, Mr. Dunn, added a concrete block addition to the north side of the building that wrapped around part of the west side of the building, as well. This addition possesses a flat roof, except in the southwest corner, where a shed roof is noted. Despite the later addition, the Greenhouse Service Station (Larry Wood Chevron) possesses many of the original features that contribute to its historic and

architectural significance.

References:

Deed Book GG page 7, Deed Book 3 pages 385-387, Deed Book 3 page 469, Deed Book 14 page 424, Deed Book 73 page 158, Deed Book 275 page 36; Cherokee County Courthouse, Canton, Georgia

Carl Dunn, Telephone Interview by Lauren A. Cotton, December 15, 1992

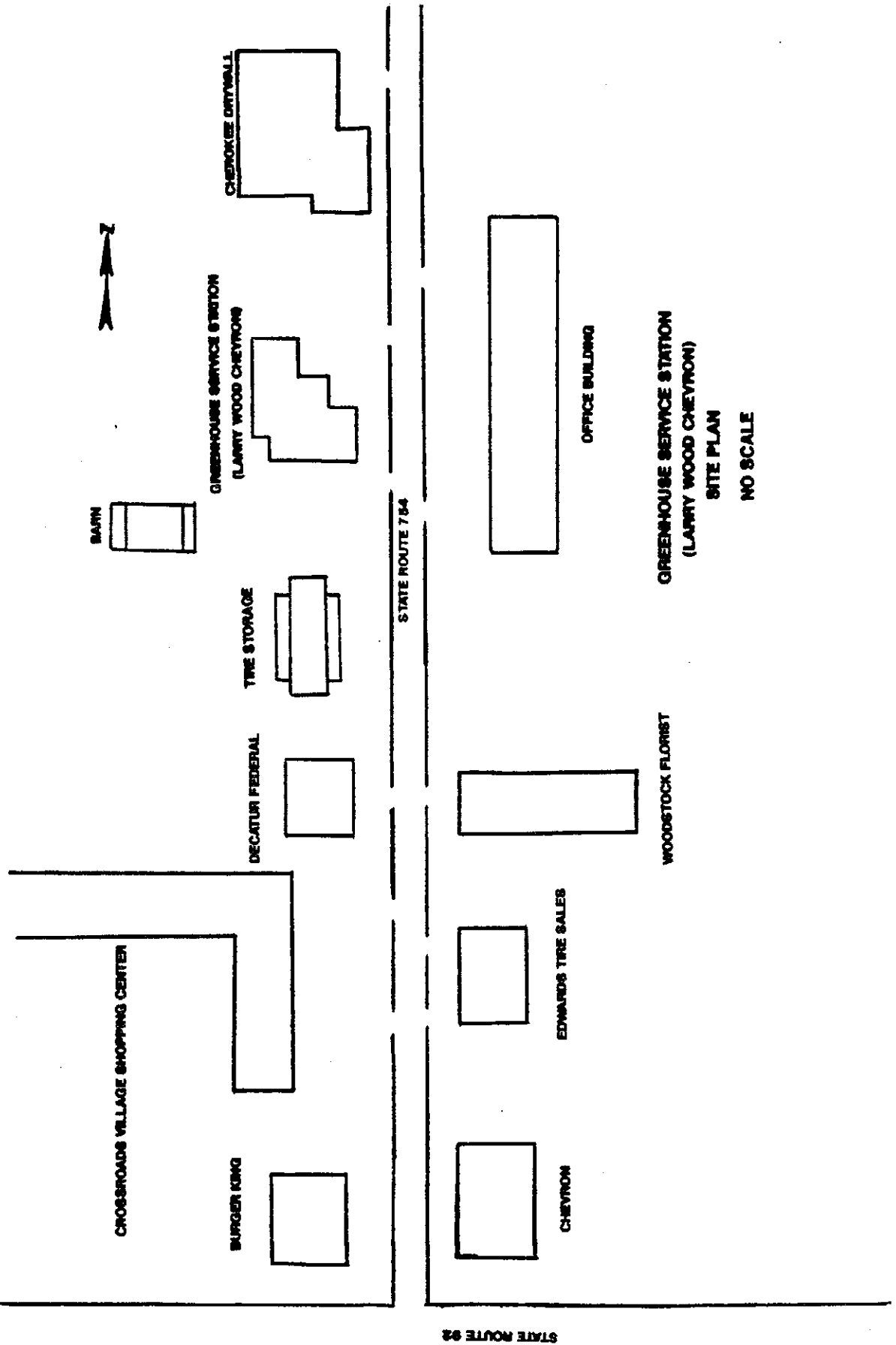
Juanita Hughes, local historian, Interview by Elliott K. Wright, Woodstock, Georgia, May 1990

Ruth B. Reeves, Telephone Interview by Lauren A. Cotton, December 1992

Gilbert Reeves, Interview by Elliott K. Wright, Woodstock, Georgia, May 1990

Edith Reeves Sims, Interview by Elliott K. Wright, Woodstock, Georgia, May/December 1990

Larry Wood, Interview by Elliott K. Wright, Woodstock, Georgia, May 1990



**GREENHOUSE SERVICE STATION (LARRY WOOD CHEVRON)**

**FLOOR PLAN**

**NO SCALE**

